

**MINUTES of the MEETING of the ST BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL
Held at the ALEXANDER HALL, St Blazey, on Thursday 30th July 2015**

Present

Councillor J Anderson – Mayor
Councillor A Seel – Deputy Mayor

Councillors

G Allen, R Blackie, G Miller, R Taylor, J Taylor and S Wheeler.

In attendance: Town Clerk
Cornwall Cllr R Taylor (incl above)
One member of the press

Before the meeting began, the Mayor told the Council that she had received Councillor Scrafton resignation, he will continue as Cornwall Councillor. Councillor Anderson said how much she appreciated the work Councillor Scrafton had undertaken on behalf of St Blaise Town Council which was echoed by all present.

1507/01 **TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor A Putt.

1507/02 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of 25th June 2015 were confirmed as being correct and later signed by the Chairperson.

1507/03 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

1507/04 **MATTERS ARISING**

1506/08 Councillor Taylor reported that the problem of the dog barking in Landreath Place has been resolved.

1506/23 Councillors Anderson said that it would be nice to see recognition in the way of a plaque or similar to St Blazey Service Station, Walter Bailey and Holmbush Windows who have given donations for plants. The Clerk said that Councillor Putt was organising this.

1507/05 **POLICE CRIME FIGURES**

June 2015

Recorded 6/15

Recorded 6/14 Difference

Violence with Injury	3	3	0%
Violence without Injury	7	1	600%
Sexual Offences	0	1	-100%
Burglar Dwelling	1	2	-50%
Burglary Non Dwelling	1	1	0%
Vehicle Offences	0	1	-100%
Shoplifting	1	1	0%
Other Theft	2	7	-71.4%
Criminal Damage	7	5	40%
Public Order Offences	4	5	-20%
TOTAL:	26	27	-3.7%

Detected 7 Under Investigation 9

Incidents Recorded

	Recorded 6/15	Recorded 6/14	
Anti-Social Behaviour	19	17	11.8%
Crime not recorded	2	1	100%
Crime Recorded	10	7	42.9%
Public Safety	36	34	5.9%
Transport	12	8	50%
TOTAL:	79	67	17.9%

1507/06 COMMUNITY WARDENS REPORT

I have continued with the strimming around the Town and it is all up to date. The flower beds are being fed and watered on a regular basis however some of the plants from the planters at the end of Station Road and the boat on the A390 have been removed.

I am concerned that the flooring in the male toilets in the Station Road facility is lifting and I believe that the floor should be tiled.

I am continuing to kill the roadside weeds weather permitting and have cut the trees back from the vicarage that overhang onto the pavement on Church Street to allow pedestrian to use the pavement and avoid them walking in the road.

I have finished clearing the footpath that runs by Biscovey School, the unpaid work unit have yet to finish the boarding.

1507/07 A REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR ROY TAYLOR

Station Road waste in the street

The man from the family identified previously agreed that he had had a problem but showed me his stronger green bags and these have not been involved in subsequent spillages. Some one else is responsible.

Brooks Corner

Sewers have been surcharging, Kessel valve on one property alarm sounding. There has been a sewage discharge onto Par Lane.

Dave Owens (acting on behalf of SWW) has cancelled another consultation meeting with councillors citing that representatives from CC Highways and the EA are unable to attend.

Doug and I have put pressure on saying we want some answers. Some of the work originally proposed was due to complete before the end of the preceding financial year.

Doubletrees

Ongoing issue with parking on grass depriving residents of visibility when leaving their properties. Hopeful that parking enforcement will be able to resolve.

1507/08 **A REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR DOUG SCRAFTON**

Councillor Scrafton sent his apologies but forwarded the following report:-

I chaired a meeting of the Community Network Panel on 27 July, where representatives of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office and of Devon and Cornwall Police explained their decision to close St Blazey Police Office. I found the explanations disingenuous and the lack of consultation arrogant. I intend to pursue at the public meeting between the PCC and the Chief Constable on 21 August. But I am not sanguine about the prospects of reversing a bad decision.

With support from Councillor Taylor and others, I secured the approval by Cornwall Council on 21 July of a motion calling upon the government to ensure that similar weight is given to public opinion on housing developments as they have on wind turbines (the rules have been changed, requiring applications for wind turbines to be able to demonstrate public acceptance). The Leader of Cornwall Council is charged with passing this information to HMG.

The so-called 'Deal for Cornwall' announced with much fanfare earlier this month is a pale imitation of the 'Case for Cornwall' that Cornwall Council have put forward seeking significantly greater devolution. In particular, the 'Deal' allows for no new local influence over housing or planning issues. Nevertheless, the 'Deal' is a step in the right direction and should be welcomed for that reason. But much more needs to be done.

I note that, following discussions I had with the Planning Officer, the planning application for a new house on St Austell Road has been refused. The refusal of permission for redevelopment of the Biscovey Sports Club has been taken to appeal, with representations due to be received by 7 August.

1507/09 **THE FUTURE OF ST BLAZEY POLICE STATION**

The Clerk and the Mayor attended a meeting with the police representatives at St Blazey Police Station on 1st July, however the guardian had contacted certain councillors before they could update them on the meeting. The police have to give the Town Council first refusal on the purchase of the land or they will try and get planning permission to convert the police station into a home and sell it with PP.

Councillor Taylor on hearing the news wrote to the Police Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall as follows:-

Dear Mr Hogg

It was brought to my attention recently that St Blazey Police Station is to close. This information was not brought to me by means of a consultation exercise from the police but by a phone call from the Cornish Guardian. I represent St Blazey as the member of Cornwall Council but am aware that members who serve neighbouring divisions that are also affected by this decision were similarly not informed of your plans.

You are the democratically elected face of the Police and as such must surely be aware of the need to consult and inform the public when major changes to local policing provision are being considered. To be presented with a fait accompli is wholly unacceptable.

While I appreciate that the St Blazey Police Station is not manned 24/7, it presents solid evidence of a police presence and a marked police vehicle parked nearby is a reassurance to local people.

Although I have not seen any figures or estimates, given the shocking scale of government cuts it may well be inevitable that this and other police stations be closed but if you had carried out a consultation exercise then mitigation measures could have been negotiated and put in place.

In the absence of a consultation, perhaps you could provide answers to the following initial thoughts and concerns? Please see questions that were asked at the Community Network meeting.

Having had no reply to any of the questions expressed in the letter, Councillor Taylor asked the same questions of CI Mark Bolt and the CEO of the PCC Andrew White on Monday evening at the Burrows.

Will the police compliment serving St Blazey / Par / Tywardreath and environ remain the same?

Yes for now at least

Will the same individuals who have built up constructive relationships within the community still be policing the area? **Yes hopefully**

Where will they be based? **St Austell**

How and how often will they travel to and from their work based? **Don't know**

How many hours of policing will be lost to the community? **Don't know**

Will they have police vehicle (s) available to them for regular use? **Yes**

Will they have police vehicle (s) available to them for emergency use and what will be the delay in response? **Yes and don't know**

How much the closure is estimated to save and how this saving is made up? **£8 to 10K and don't have that information**

How much additional cost has been estimated for providing additional transport and other costs for those who will be covering from their new base? **Don't know**

Councillor Taylors final question was: "It is apparent that you are presiding over a shrinking estate with ongoing loss of personnel. Would you agree that the PCC's office should take the same cuts as the authority as a whole?" The answer was unclear to him.

He also said that he would submit a Freedom of Information Act request for the following but was advised the information would be freely provided-

"I would appreciate information on the number of recorded crimes for the area served by the St Blazey Police Station compared to those recorded in St Austell over the last twelve months." He has since added. "Please provide a breakdown of the estimated savings (£8 to 10K) from the closure of the St Blazey Police Station."

It became apparent that the Police could remain based locally if suitable premises were made available.

Various discussion took place regarding the homing of the police if the TC were to buy the site but the conversation is only hypothetical until the purchase price is known.

1507/10 **HISTORIC PICTURES OF ST BLAZEY**

The Mayor, the Clerk and Councillor Jenny Taylor visited 3 picture framers and have left the historic pictures of St Blazey with Atishoo Designs in Charlestown to be framed and mounted. The cost of the work will be £76.60 each and be paid from the Chairman's Allowance. Local Government Act 1972, ss 15(5) and 34(5).

1507/11 **IMPLICATIONS OF LOCALISM AND CORNWALL COUNCIL CUTS**

The Clerk attended a meeting of Cornwall Association of Local Council Larger Councils Meeting where Cllr Adam Paynter, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Resources gave an update from Cornwall Council. He agreed that devolution is not taking place as quickly as it should be and said that some CC staff were not allowing progress.

He reported that the Library services consultation had to be stopped as other local authorities who had started the process were facing a judicial review as there had not been consultation with other bodies. Of the 31 libraries in Cornwall, 14 local solutions had been offered which have been parked while investigation took place. He spoke about the possibility of local Town and Parish Councils taking over services but was informed that only Councils who have the Power of Competence can do this as the other Councils do not have powers. The 13 Leisure Centres could also be devolved but talks are at an early stage.

Cornwall is the first rural Count to be given devolved powers as announced in the recent mid-year budget, Manchester being the first urban county. This will allow many services to be devolved, including health care and public transport. It excludes Housing and Planning. Europe does not recognise Local Enterprise Partnerships but many of the devolved powers will be passed to them as our government does have the right to decide hoe EU money is spent.

Adam Paynter was asked how many green spaces had been devolved as out of the 213 local councils that have green spaces and only a handful have entered conversation. He said that he couldn't see why this was and added that they were unlike car parks which make Cornwall Council 14 million per year.

Paperless Planning has been delayed from 1.9.15 and will probably not begin until 1.4.2016. He said this is encouraged by government and was told that the CC

planning web-site is not robust to handle the amount of applications due to the down time. He assured us that paper applications will still be available for very large proposals and that the local councils can always obtain paper copies from the agents.

He was asked about S106 monies not being spent as they should be, we were informed that a number of the older agreements were found not to be legal and that was the reason that some of the monies were not spent locally.

1507/12 **TO CONSIDER A BUS SHELTER FOR MIDDLEWAY**

The Clerk has approached Cornwall Council for a grant for a bus shelters on Middleway. A quote from Bus shelters Ltd has been provided at a cost of 2,360.44 for the shelter. The concrete base has been quoted as £1,855 but there is not enough room for a 5m x 1.8m and so the Clerk has asked for an alternative.

1507/13 **EMERGENCY PLANNING**

Charles Richards will be applying to Cornwall Council on behalf of both ourselves and Par and Tywardreath PC to develop Emergency plans.

1507/14 **CAROL CONCERT**

Councillor Jenny Taylor told the council that the local ladies choir were unavailable on December 13th however a Church's Together Choir which includes representatives from St Mary's, Biscovey and the Good Shepherd, Par will be performing.

1507/15 **PROJECT LIST**

Burrows Centre – The Clerk has received amended plans from Purl Design which have now been forwarded for planning permission. The Clerk asked if the Council were happy to proceed with estimates. All the Councillors agreed.

Neighbourhood Planning – Various members of NP committee met with Eden who are keen to work with us and re-build the connections that have loosened. There will be a small meeting of NP members and CRCC on Monday 3rd August.

1507/16 **TOWN CLERKS REPORT**

At the Cornwall Association of Local Council Larger Councils Meeting, a talk was given on Community Capacity Building, however the Clerks understanding is that this is very similar to Emergency Planning.

The Town Team are holding a Networking Event on August 13th between 6.00 pm and 8.00 pm on August 13th which are the Councillors are invited to.

Cornwall Council are undertaking a call for brownfield sites to inform the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment and Register of Brown field sites.

Chicks are having an open day on Friday 28th August between 2.00 pm and 6.00 pm on Friday 28th August which are the Councillors are invited to.

Par Bay Big Local will be moving out of the shop in August. Closing Saturday 15th. Final handover 22nd August. They will be in Cornubia on Saturday mornings and possibly one other day (not yet decided).

1507/17 PLANNING MATTERS

There has been four planning application received and it was RESOLVED to not object to any of them.

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|-------------------|--|
| PA15/05488 | Listed Building Consent
For the removal of part of front garden for the creation of a parking space.
The Old Duke William
51 St Austell Road
St Blazey Gate |
| PA15/05486 | Removal of part of front garden.
The Old Duke William
51 St Austell Road
St Blazey Gate |
| PA15/06023 | The development of a singular modular building comprising two classrooms and a toilet block.
Biscovey Nursery and Infant School
Lamellyn Road
St Blazey |
| PA15/05659 | Extension to the Burrows Centre and additional parking.
The Burrows Centre
Lamellyn Road
St Blazey |
| Results received. | |
| PA15/03363 | Proposal to use amenity land adjacent to existing youth hostel operation for the temporary provision of a 60 pitch camp site including toilet and shower blocks (4 x toilets and 4 x showers). Pitches are to be un-serviced. Toilets and shower blocks will be connected to mains power, waste and water via above ground service connections from the adjacent hostel site. YHA currently operates camping under a Camping Exemption Licence and this application is to enable YHA to extend camping from the permitted 60 days per year. Proposed operation is from March to October 9(inclusive) ending 31 st October 2016. Temporary planning permission is sought for this period.
The Eden Project, Bodelva
APPROVED |
| PA15/05217 | Non-material amendment in respect of decision notice PA12/03104 – Green Build Hub: Mixed use exemplar |

demonstration building and exhibition space including training, meeting and office.

The Eden Project

Bodelva

APPROVED (SBTC not consulted)

PA15/03339

New dwelling

Land west of 31 St Austell Road

St Austell Road

St Blazey

REFUSED

PA15/5163

Listed Building Consent

Proposed demolition of existing flat roof structures, redevelopment of redundant public house building together with a new build construction to provide 8 units of residential accommodation.

Cornish Arms

Church Street

St Blazey

APPROVED

PA15/04638

Redevelopment of the Cornish Arms to provide eight units of residential accommodation.

Cornish Arms

Church Street

St Blazey

APPROVED

PA15/05269

Notification of Prior Approval for a proposed larger home extension for a sun lounge.

Prior approval not required.

SBTC not consulted.

The Clerk withdrew the council no objection to the planning application at 11 Bodelva Road to avoid it being decided by the planning committee.

1507/18 ALEXANDER HALL

The Clerk has requested an estimate to repair the wood work to the front doors at Alexander Hall which are badly rotten.

1507/19 ACCOUNTS

July 15

Payments Received

Hall Bookings	1304.50
Interest	3.25
High Deposit	137.66 6/15
Black Sacks	38.50

Expenditure

Broadband	28.73
UK Fuels	65.01
Insurance	216.83
HMRC	487.07
CC (pen)	466.14
Clerks Sal	1350.98
Wardens Wage	545.67
Eclipse	14.38
Frontier Agr	524.64
WPS	15.00
Snowland Emb	52.50
Warden Uniform	10.00
CRCC	4800.00
Walter Bailey	41.67
CC(PP)	385.00
EDF (foun)	44.94
Clerks Travel	36.00
Key cutting	31.30
Oil	16.81
Stationery	6.88
Postage	10.74
Trago	3.79
Batteries	12.47
Atishoo Designs	229.80
Weed Killer	5.98
Hospitality	14.65
<u>AH</u>	
SWW	78.50
EON	74.00
SE	157.76
Cleaners Wage	65.00
Chubb (parts)	12.78
Smoke Detector	14.99
Cleaning Mats	3.96
Kitchen Equipment	5.00
<u>PC</u>	
Wallgate	523.20
Bus Rates	53.00
Warden	31.00

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1483.91

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10,436.17

All the Councillors RESOLVED to accept the accounts submitted.

Councillors Putt has requested that he purchase wall flowers for the planters, The Council agreed.

Councillor Jenny Taylor told the Council that PBBL are to take six months to re-group, this they feel necessary as they are currently in the middle of many projects. The move to and re-modelling of Cornubia Hall, the setting up of a loan agreement to promote future business and the Bread and Bricks Project to name a few.

Councillor Blackie requested that more “Dog Notices” are put up at Biscovey.

Councillor Allen said that the fountain is cloudy and offered some plants that could help clear it.

1507/21 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on 27th August 2015 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.56 pm.